Welcome back to the 2005-2006 school year. I hope your summer was a good one and that you have returned ready for another year. CAST began the year with a well attended and uplifting faculty meeting that included a couple of classical pieces played by pianist Dr. Klaus Schmidt of the Department of Technology.

Provost Presley spoke and was most complimentary of CAST and the accomplishments of our faculty. Dr. Mark Temple, Department of Health Sciences, CAST Outstanding Teacher of the Year, gave an inspiring overview about the act of teaching. New faculty and our newly tenured faculty were introduced. I gave an overview of some of our initiatives and directions for the year. I hope to build on these as I visit each of your fall faculty meetings. We are off to a good start.

Some of our colleagues have had to really concentrate and work very hard to successfully launch this semester. The ceiling in Dr. Brent Beggs’ office in McCormick Hall collapsed sometime last Tuesday evening (August 16, 2005). Fortunately, he was not in his office at the time. We learned during these past ten days how capable ISU is when there is an emergency.

After employees from the Physical Plant inspected the area it was determined that nine offices and two classrooms that are on the second floor of McCormick Hall overlooking the Quad would need to be evacuated for the entire semester. Nine KNR faculty members had to pack their offices last Friday afternoon and their materials were moved to a new office suite in Williams Hall.

Jeff Wood, Alan Lacy, and a host of other University employees and divisions worked very hard to help these faculty members relocate and be prepared to teach on Monday. I appreciate the extra effort everyone exerted to help us be ready on time.

Best wishes to each of you for a successful semester.

More later…..

CAST Office 10/14/05

Important Dates & Deadlines:

- CAST Outstanding Graduate Student Researcher Award Application due to CAST Office 9/2/05
- University Outstanding Researcher Award Application due to CAST Office 9/30/05
- University Research Initiative Award Application due to CAST Office 9/30/05
- CAST Outstanding Service Award Application due to CAST Office 10/14/05
- CAST Outstanding Teacher Award Application due to CAST Office 10/14/05
- CAST Outstanding Researcher Award Application due to CAST Office 10/14/05

I hope you took time to recharge your batteries and reflect about last year in anticipation of the coming one. In your absence, things were happening in CAST over the summer, some positive, others less so. On a personal note, my batteries were recharged when Kiki and I took a long over-due vacation. I utilized some of the time to reflect about work and catch up on some recreational reading. My philosophy about “servant leadership” was rekindled which proved to be prophetic and immediately useful upon my return to work.

Last week a ceiling in a faculty office in McCormick collapsed. Fortunately the office wasn’t occupied and students hadn’t yet returned to campus. The disaster restored my belief in teamwork as several KNR faculty worked together tirelessly and without complaint as they were temporarily relocated from McCormick into Stevenson Hall. It was truly a remarkable effort by all involved, including university personnel and KNR staff. Thanks to all who contributed in making the situation tolerable.

On a more positive note, several-end-of-fiscal-year projects were initiated and some completed over the summer. Several areas long overdue for paint received attention and others were slightly refurbished. The computer lab in Turner 202 was upgraded with new equipment and furniture. Stop by and take a look.

Several other changes have occurred in Turner Hall over the summer. Recycling has been made into a study area for students, staff and faculty alike to utilize. Several upholstered chairs may be found in the Center for Consumer Sciences in room 138. The space once occupied by Family and Consumer Sciences functions previously located there were moved to Turner 150 and the space in 138 was made into a study area for students, staff and faculty alike to utilize. Several upholstered chairs may be found in the Center as well as tables and a copy machine. For those who wish to access the Internet, a wireless node will soon be added.

I’m looking forward to working with each of you this year to advance and support the mission of the College and University. As always, if you have questions or concerns about IDEA, curriculum, technology issues, or facilities please don’t hesitate to call on me.

Good luck and have a great year!

JAW
CAST research office

CAST Research Committee

For the 2005-06 academic year, the following persons will comprise the CAST Research Committee: Kerry Tudor, AGR; Barbara Becque, ITK; Dave Thomas, KNR; Tom Bierma, HSC; and Dan Brown, TEC. (Representatives from FCS and CJS have yet to be identified.) The primary responsibilities of the Committee will be to review applications/nominations for various college and university research awards. A number of research related workshops are planned for the fall semester for which Committee members will have various roles. While the review of University Research Grants submitted by CAST faculty has typically been a task for the Committee during the fall semester, such work for this academic year will be done during the 2006 spring semester.

Statistical Consulting Center

This is a good time to remind readers that the RSPO-sponsored Statistical Consulting Center is available to provide statistical support for faculty and staff research projects. The service is also available to graduate students (with their faculty advisor approval) working on their thesis, dissertation, or other research projects. The Statistical Consulting Center is located in 616A Mil. Consultation requests can be made via the website at: http://www.statscenterilstu.edu/. Questions can be sent to statscenter@ilstu.edu or by contacting Dr. Jinadasa Gamage (jina@ilstu.edu 438-7268) or Dr. Steve Taylor (staylor@ilstu.edu, 438-8772).

Department of Agriculture

ISA Endowed Soybean Support Fund Established

Date: 8/12/05
Contact: Eric Jome

Illinois State University has received $300,000 from the Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) for the establishment of the ISA Endowed Soybean Support Fund. The working endowment will support soybean related research and education at the University.

A signing ceremony with Illinois State President Al Bowman, ISA Vice Chairman George Dixon (pictured on the right with President Bowman and Vice President of University Advancement Dianne Ashby) and ISA Secretary Pete Pistorius was held at Illinois State on Friday.

The ISA Endowed Soybean Support Fund will be used to enhance the educational mission of Illinois State’s Department of Agriculture and aid in the department’s faculty recruitment and retention efforts. Money from the endowment will fund research and education programs addressing the areas of agriculture and agribusiness related to soybeans and soy products, soy related food and nutrition issues and international trade related to soybeans and soy products.

The fund will be administered through the Illinois State Foundation. Professor Patrick D. O’Rourke, chair of Illinois State’s Department of Agriculture, will serve as the fiscal agent with input from an advisory committee of ISA and University representatives. The annual earnings of the $300,000 endowment will be matched 100 percent by Illinois State.

ISA works for the benefit of Illinois soybean farmers, providing research, promotion and education programs to increase demand for Illinois soybeans and improve soybean related profit potential. The ISA’s investments in higher education are targeted to benefit the farmers and people of Illinois, to attract more funding to higher education and to support improvements in international marketing.

“The research and education programs at Illinois State have contributed significantly to the improvement of soybean growers’ profitability over the years,” said ISA Vice Chairman George Dixon. “Throughout the years, the Illinois State research and education programs have grown steadily. This endowed fund strengthens the partnership between Illinois State and ISA.”

“This partnership between ISA and Illinois State University is a natural one in a state that is a leader in soybean production. The ISA Endowed Soybean Support Fund helps the University’s Department of Agriculture to further its research and education mission,” said Illinois State University President Al Bowman. “We are deeply grateful to the Illinois Soybean Association for their faith in Illinois State and for their generosity in establishing this fund.”

“The ISA Endowed Soybean Support Fund will help support research and education programs that contribute to the success of producers, marketers, and processors of soybeans and soybean products and support the continued development of nutritional foods from soybeans,” said Patrick D. O’Rourke, chair of Illinois State’s Department of Agriculture.

Department of Criminal Justice Sciences

Drs. Jeff Walsh and Donna Vandiver received a $2,000 grant from the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) program to present research related to teaching. They will be presenting at the International Education Conference in January 2006 in Hawaii.
Department of Family and Consumer Sciences

Barb Gallick, Head Teacher in the Child Care Center, presented twice over the summer for the Child Care Resource and Referral Network (CCRRN). She presented "Introduction to the Project Approach" to early childhood professionals from Bloomington-Normal in early June. She later presented "Developing Self-Esteem" for child care home providers in a training program which is jointly sponsored by the CCRRN and the Bloomington Housing Authority.

At the May 2005 World Forum on Early Care and Education in Montreal, Canada, Karen Stephens, Director of the Child Care Center, was session designer and panel moderator for two sessions entitled "Working with Parents." The forum hosted participants from 80 different countries hoping to learn globally successful strategies for managing early care and education programs.

Dr. Connor Walters presented three invited workshops at the annual meeting of the American Association for Family and Consumer Sciences held in Minneapolis, Minnesota in July. The workshops were titled, "Building Confidence in Completing Self Studies", "Accreditation Site Visitors Training: Creating Team Leaders", and "Looking for Money in All the Right Places". Dr. Walters just completed her three year terms as Chair for the AAFCS Council for Accreditation and Chair for the AAFCS Development Committee.

Dr. George Byrns presented an invited seminar, "Applications of System Safety Analysis for the Commercial Air Transportation Industry" at the headquarters of China Airlines in Taipei, Taiwan on May 20.

Dr. Rod Simmons presented an invited graduate seminar entitled "Risk Management and the Risk Acceptance Code Matrix" at a joint seminar sponsored by the College of Engineering and the College of Management at Tunghai University in Taichung, Taiwan on May 23. Dr. Simmons also met with management and industrial engineering faculty, the engineering dean, and the university president to discuss options for a graduate program specialization in system and occupational safety engineering and management, including distance-learning collaboration with ISU.

Julie Maschhoff wrote the Partner Violence module for a grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for a Women's Health Curriculum. Dr. James Broadbear, Dr. Marilyn Morrow and others from ISU contributed to this Health Curriculum.

Department of Health Sciences

Dr. Gary Erisman attended the National Institute for Farm Safety Inc. meeting in Wintergreen, Virginia June 25-30. He is a member of the past presidents Advisory Board, along with the Tractor and Machinery, Rural Occupational Health, and Professional Improvement committees. Dr. Erisman was appointed chair of a committee to organize and conduct a National Mini-Course on Agricultural Safety and Health to be offered as part of the 2006 NIFS meeting to be held in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Dr. Mark Temple, CAST Outstanding Teacher for 2004-2005, presented "An Inspirational Message on the Subject of Teaching" at the CAST Fall Faculty Convocation on August 18.

Dr. Sara Cole was re-appointed for a second term to the House of Delegates for the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE). As National Delegate for the Illinois Chapter of the Society for Public Health Education (iSOPHE), she is the liaison between SOPHE and iSOPHE.

Nichole Eisenrich, Safety major, received the Society of Casualty Safety Engineers Scholarship for 2005. This is the third year in a row that an ISU Safety major has received this $1000 scholarship. Ms. Eisenrich is spending the 2005-2006 academic year at California State University, Northridge, as part of the National Student Exchange program.

Dr. George Byrns and three ISU Environmental Health students attended the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition, May 21-26, in Anaheim, California. At the conference, Dr. Byrns moderated the Health Care Industries program platform presentations.

Dr. George Byrns published a peer-reviewed article, "Low Back Pain Among RNs: Advantages & Potential Pitfalls of Longitudinal Research." This was published in the July 2005 issue of Professional Safety.

Dr. George Byrns is writing a regular industrial hygiene column for the Journal of the Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare.

Dr. Rod Simmons presented an invited seminar at the American Association of Occupational Health, Safety and Environmental Sciences (AAOHS) meeting in Wintergreen, Virginia June 25-30.

Dr. James Broadbear, Dr. Marilyn Morrow and others from ISU contributed to this Health Curriculum.
**School of Information Technology**

Dr. James Wolf and co-author Yifan Wang, Ohio State University, presented their paper, “Paid Placement with Optimal Cost-Per-Click Prices” at the 2005 Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences’ (INFORMS) Marketing Science Conference. The conference was held June 16-18, 2005 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. James Wolf and co-author Waleed Muhanna, Ohio State University, had their paper “Adverse Selection and Reputations in Online Auctions: Evidence from eBay Motors” accepted for presentation at the International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS).

The conference will be held December 11-14, 2005 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dr. Douglas P. Twitchell and his co-authors, David P. Biros, Mark Adkins, Judee K. Burgoon and Jay F. Nunamaker Jr., have had their paper, “Determining the Veracity of Interview Statements from People of Interest to an Operational Security Force” at the peer-reviewed Thirty-Ninth Annual Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences held in Kauai, Hawaii, January 4 - 7, 2006

Dr. Douglas P. Twitchell and his co-authors Thomas O. Meservy, Matthew L. Jensen, John Kruse, Gabriel Tsechpenakis, Judee K.Burgoon, Dimitris N. Metaxas and Jay F. Nunamaker, Jr. have had their paper “Deception Detection through Automatic Unobtrusive Analysis of Nonverbal Behavior” accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed journal IEEE Intelligent Systems.

Dr. Winn Mahatanankoon, and his co-authors H. J. Won and T. Klaus presented their paper “Predicting Perceived Performance on Internet Usage in Entertainment, Communicating, and Information Seeking Activities” at the peer reviewed International Association for Computer Information Systems (IACIS) Pacific Conference. The conference was held in June in Taipei, Taiwan.

**Department of Technology**

Dr. Richard Boser attended a three-day Residential Construction workshop for university faculty in Dallas, Texas on June 27-29, 2005. The event was hosted by Centex Homes. The purpose of the workshop was to connect faculty with subject matter experts in production home building.

Dr. Richard Boser attended EXPO 2005 at Aichi, Japan to participate in an international forum related to technology education. His presentation “Lasers and Wood: Application in Technology Education” was given as part of the “Making Things and Education” event, which include participants from 10 countries. At a subsequent session sponsored by Aichi University of Education and the Japan International Cooperation Agency, Dr. Boser facilitated a seminar on technology education practices in the United States.

Dr. Rodney Custer and Katherine Weber (former Dept. of Technology graduate student) recently published an article entitled Gender-based Preferences Toward Technology Education Content, Activities, and Instructional Methods in the Journal of Technology Education.

Drs. Chris Merrill and Rodney Custer recently participated in the strategic planning meeting for the International Technology Education Association in Solitude, Utah. Merrill and Custer serve as members of the ITEA Board of Directors.

Drs. Chris Merrill and Rodney Custer conducted a one week professional development workshop for technology education teachers this summer as part of the National Center for Engineering and Technology Education’s plan of work. Another cohort of technology teachers from across Illinois will engage in a series of professional development experiences throughout this current academic year.

Dr. Chris Merrill received a $75,000 grant from the Illinois State Board of Education to lead the Illinois University Council for Career and Technical Education.

Dr. Chris Merrill, in conjunction with the Illinois Technology Student Association, hosted and arranged for 250 judges for the National Technology Student Association Conference in Chicago, Illinois. Over 5,000 students, parents, and teachers attended.

Dr. Ken Stier attended the American Society for Engineering Education Conference in Portland, Oregon from June 13-15 and made a refereed presentation entitled “A Competency Gaps Study for A Manufacturing Sequence Curriculum”.

Marty Westrick and Jenny Daugherty (Project ProBase curriculum specialist) attended a doctoral student orientation meeting on August 12-13 for the National Center for Engineering and Technology Education doctoral fellows in Washington, DC. During this orientation, they were introduced to leaders from the National Science Foundation, the National Academy of Engineering, and the U.S. Dept. of Education.